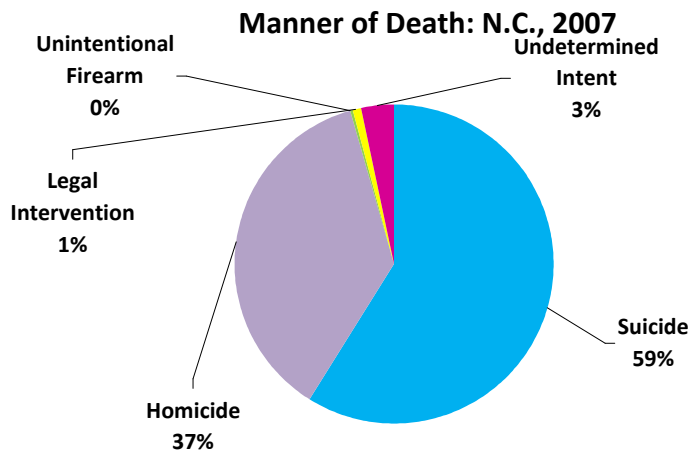


HOMICIDE IN NORTH CAROLINA

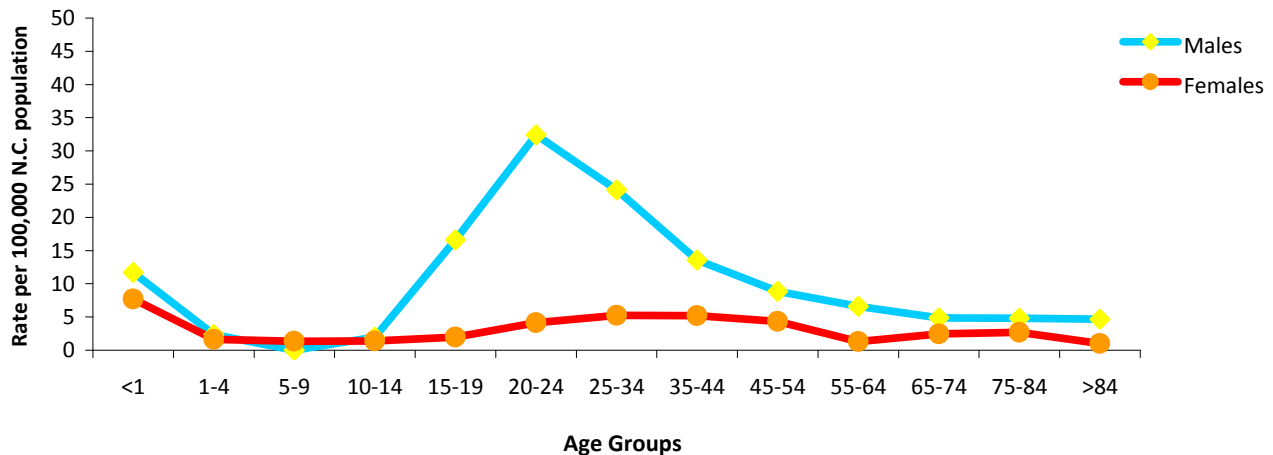
The North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System (NC-VDRS) is a CDC-funded statewide surveillance system that collects detailed information on deaths that occur in N.C. resulting from violence: homicide, suicide, unintentional firearm deaths, legal intervention, and deaths for which intent could not be determined. NC-VDRS is a multi-source system that gathers information from death certificates, medical examiner reports, and law enforcement reports. The goal of this system is to aid researchers, legislators, and community interest groups in the development of public health prevention strategies to reduce violent deaths. NC-VDRS began collecting data in January, 2004. This document summarizes 2007 homicides among N.C. residents.



- Six hundred seventy-six North Carolina residents died as a result of homicide in 2007.

- The total number of deaths as a result of violence was 1,845. There were 1,085 suicides (59 percent), 676 homicides (37 percent), 9 unintentional firearm deaths (1 percent), 13 deaths from legal interventions (1 percent), and 62 deaths of undetermined intent (3 percent).

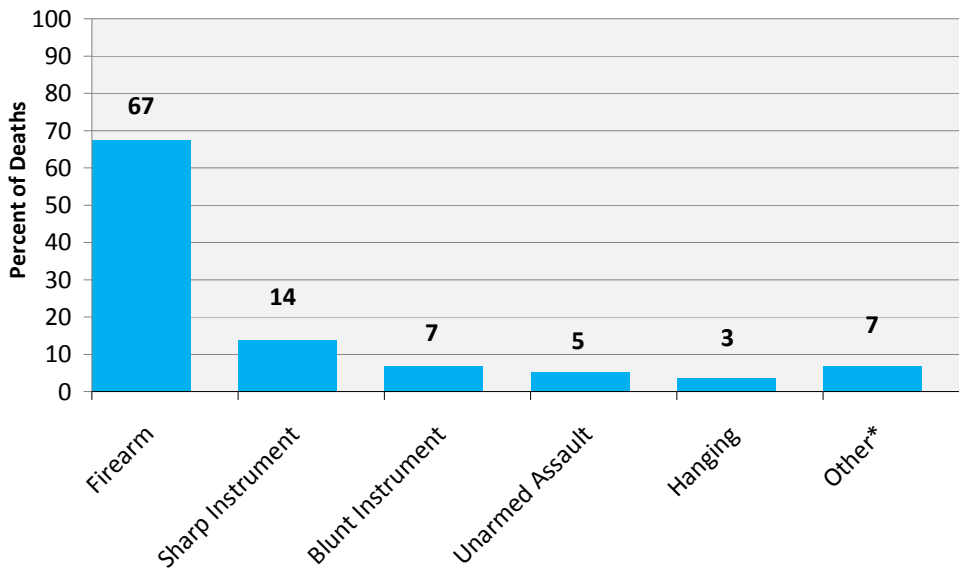
Homicide Rates (per 100,000 N.C. Population) Stratified by Age Group and Gender: N.C., 2007



- Two important spikes in homicide rates were observed when the rates were graphed by age group. A small peak was seen in children under age one and a larger peak was seen in victims 20-24 years of age. This was especially true for males in this age group. The rate of homicide is about eight times greater for males than females 15-24 years of age.

- Homicide patterns differed by race; a total of 345 N.C. homicide victims were black, constituting 51 percent of all homicide victims. Although whites composed three-fourths (74 percent) of the total N.C. population, whites accounted for only 44 percent of homicides (300 deaths). The rate of homicide for blacks was 17.4, compared to a rate of 4.4 per 100,000 N.C. residents for whites. American Indians also had a higher rate of homicide (20.3 per 100,000 N.C. residents).

Method of Death: N.C., 2007

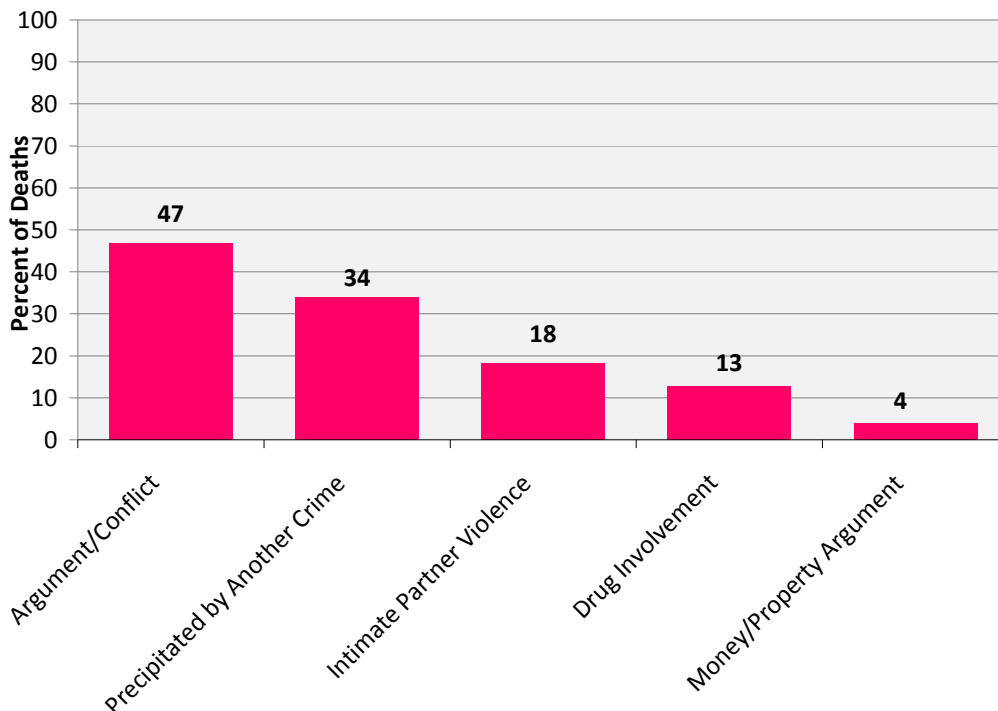


*Other includes violent shaking, fire/burns, motor vehicle, multiple methods, poisoning, fall, unknown method, and other causes of death.

- Firearms were used in 68 percent of homicides; sharp instruments were used in 14 percent.

- The remaining methods were each used less than 10 percent of the time.

Circumstances* of Homicide: N.C., 2007



- Argument, abuse, or conflict unrelated to intimate partner violence (IPV) was noted as a contributing factor in almost 50 percent of homicides with reported circumstances.

- Thirty-four percent of homicides were precipitated by another crime such as robbery, burglary, or drug trafficking.

- Thirteen percent of all homicides with circumstances were identified as having drug involvement.

- IPV was indicated as a contributing factor in 18 percent of homicides.

The North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System is supported by Cooperative Agreement 5U17/CE423098-07 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).